foreigners staying illegally and thereby preventing the influx or refugees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) As per available information, as on 31.7.1999, regarding Pak nationals who visited India, a total of 11327 Pak nationals were reported to have not returned after their authorised stay. Of these, 8,700 have overstayed and 2627 are reported untraced. As the problem of overstayal and missing of Pak nationals is an internal matter, this matter has not been taken up at diplomatic level. The Central Government is in constant dialogue with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations on the subject of tracing out such Pak nationals and to deport them.

A professional consultancy firm has been entrusted with the task of preparing a feasibility report on the issue of National Identity Cards in the country.

Plan to Combat ISI backed Terrorism

1412. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to evolve a new "Action Plan" to combat ISI backed terrorism in Kashmir, as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 19th February, 2000;

(b) whether Government are aware of rise in attacks on Indian security forces to 1209 incidents in 1999 as compared to 1181 in 1998 and 1119 in the preceeding year;

(c) whether Pakistan is bent on raising the ante on the LoC with clear designs to mount tension on the borders; and

(d) if so, what remedial action Government have taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) The Security Scenario in Jammu and Kashmir is constantly reviewed by the Central and State Governments and the UHQs and as and when required suitable changes are made in the Strategy and Action Plans to meet the challenges posed by the ISI backed terrorism.

(b) As reported by State Government violent incidents directed against security forces were 1149 in 1997, 1181 in 1998 and 1209 in 1999.

(c) There have been reports that Pakistan has decided to raise the level of militancy in J and K by infiltrating more groups of militants.

(d) With a view to tackling the problems of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, the Government has adopted a multi-pronged approach which includes, *inter-alia* strengthening the border management, neutralising plans of the militants by proactive action against them in the hinterland, gearing up intelligence machinery, greater functional framework of Operations Groups of the UHQ at all levels, improved technology, weapons and equipments for Security Forces.

Steps are being taken to flush out militants and curb militant activities including closer vigil on the border, establishment of more naka parties in depth areas to check infiltration/exfiltration, more pickets, intensive patrolling and extensive cordon and search operations.